

Hamilton Field, Warehouse Type G
(Facility Nos. 820, 821)
South of Warehouse Road
Novato
Marin County
California

HABS No. CA-2398-AV

HABS
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21-NOVA,
1AV-

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey
National Park Service
Department of the Interior
San Francisco, California

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDING SURVEY

HAMILTON FIELD
Warehouse Type G
(Facility Nos. 820, 821)

HABS
CAL
21-NOVA,
1AV-

HABS No. CA-2398-AV

Location: Hamilton Army Air Field
Novato, Marin County, California
Warehouse Type G
Maintenance Warehouse (Facility No. 820) (south of Warehouse Road),
Supply/Equipment Warehouse (Facility No. 821) (south of Warehouse Road)

U.S.G.S.: Novato, CA. Quadrangle (7.5' series), 1954 (revised 1980)
Petaluma Point, CA. Quadrangle (7.5' series), 1959 (revised 1980)
UTM Coordinates: Zone 10; A: 542100/4213620; B: 544720/4212220;
C: 542760/4210650; D: 541040/4212600

Significance:

Buildings 820 and 821 are considered significant for their association with Air Force history in northern California, and with World War II actions in the Pacific Theater. These buildings were added to the base during World War II when operations were greatly expanded.

See narrative for Hamilton Field (HABS No. CA-2398) for a comprehensive Statement of Significance and individual report HABS No. CA-2398-A for a condensed Statement of Significance.

Description:

The buildings are one-story rectilinear frame structures. They have low-pitched gable roofs covered with composition shingles and louvered vents in the gable ends. Metal ventilators are located on the roofs. Foundations and floors are concrete. The original horizontal board exterior walls have all been covered with rough sawn plywood siding, added after 1974. Exterior openings consist of industrial suspended sliding metal warehouse doors and pedestrian doors with multi-lights and recessed panels. Some of the buildings have small single pane fixed windows immediately below the roofline, while others have one-over-one-light frame sash. Lighting fixtures are modern with two-tube fluorescent illumination. Building 821 has an asphalt and concrete loading dock along its north side. The interiors are used for storage of large pipes and other objects by the Navy and consist of one large room with no latrines or offices.

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Historical Context:

See narrative for Hamilton Field (HABS No. CA-2398) and Section B in report HABS No. CA-2398-F.

These warehouses were built in 1943 as part of a commissary complex. They were transferred to the U. S. Navy in 1974 and are maintained by that group. They are included in base closure and realignment actions.

Sources:

See narrative for Hamilton Field (HABS No. CA-2398) and Section B in report HABS No. CA-2398-F.

See the following project Field Record work:

Facility No. 820, Air Group Headquarters: Field Record, roll 88, exposures 1-10

Facility No. 821, Supply/Equipment Warehouse: Field Record, roll 87, exposures 7-12;
roll 88, exposures 7-8

The line drawn sketches were drafted on site in 1994 by Keith Syda, scanned into a computer and drawn by Christopher MacDonald in 1995, and corrected and finalized by Claire Warshaw in 1996 (all PAR Environmental Services, Inc. staff).

Project Information:

Hamilton Army Air Field is owned by various federal entities including the Department of the Navy, Department of the Army, United States Coast Guard, and General Services Administration (GSA). The Army/GSA parcels are being excessed and sold to private developers. The Navy property is included in Base Closure and Realignment actions.

As part of the Army's undertaking, it has been determined in consultation with the California Office of Historic Preservation (OHP) that the excess sale will have an effect on properties at the air field, and that these properties are components of a district that is eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places. Based on consultation with the OHP and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, pursuant to 36 CFR part 800, regulations implementing Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (16 U.S.C. 470f), a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) was entered into by the interested parties in March 1994. The agreement stipulated that prior to excess sale the Army must contact the HABS/HAER division at the Western Regional Office of the National Park Service, San Francisco, California, to determine the appropriate level and kind of recordation for the subject properties. The

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MOA further stipulated that copies of the documentation be made available to the OHP and appropriate local archives designated by the OHP. This recordation has been prepared in order to meet those stipulations.

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Date prepared: July 1995

Photography prepared by: David De Vries

Affiliation: Mesa Technical

Date of photographs: October 1994

